

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of

Inventor: Robert A. Heiberger

For: A FLUID CONTAINER CLOSURE MECHANISM WITH DETACHABLE VALVE ASSEMBLY

Enclosed are:

☒ THREE (3) sheets of drawing. INFORMAL DRAWINGS☐ An assignment of the invention to _____☐ A certified copy of a _____ application.☐ An associate power of attorney.☒ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27. (2)☐

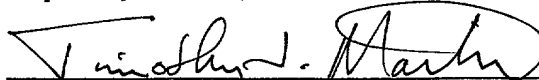
The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
FOR:	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE		RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE				\$380.00	OR		\$760.00
TOTAL CLAIMS	32 -20 =	* 12	12 x 9	\$108	OR	x 18	\$
INDEP CLAIMS	5 -3 =	* 2	2 x 39	\$ 78.00	OR	x 78	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED			x130	\$	OR	x260	\$
			TOTAL	\$566.00	OR	TOTAL	\$

*If the difference in Col. 1 is less than zero, enter "0"
in Col. 2

☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ A check in the amount of \$ 566.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed. ☐ and recordation of assignment.☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-1940. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16.☐ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.☐ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.☐ The issue fee set in 37 CFR 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311 (b).☐ Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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01/26/99

JC588 U.S. PTO

JC526 U.S. PTO
09/23/687

01/26/99

09237687 012699

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.10

I hereby certify that the attached patent application entitled **A FLUID CONTAINER CLOSURE MECHANISM WITH DETACHABLE VALVE ASSEMBLY, including TRANSMITTAL SHEET, VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (1), POWER OF ATTORNEY, ABSTRACT, DECLARATION, THREE (3) SHEETS OF INFORMAL DRAWINGS, CHECK NO. 13513 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$566.00 FOR THE FILING FEE**, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL, label number **EJ 578676680 US** for delivery in an envelope addressed to The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this 26th day of January, 1999.

Elizabeth Nickol

669210 2892660

**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number (Optional)
1671

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Robert A. Heiberger

Application or Patent No.: _____

Filed or Issued: _____

Title: A FLUID CONTAINER CLOSURE MECHANISM WITH DETACHABLE VALVE
ASSEMBLY

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
☐ the application identified above.
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ No such person, concern, or organization exists.
☒ Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Product Architects, Inc.

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

Robert A. Heiberger

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Date

Date

Date

STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

Docket Number (Optional)
1671

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Robert A. Heiberger
Application or Patent No.: _____
Filed or Issued: _____
Title: A FLUID CONTAINER CLOSURE MECHANISM WITH DETACHABLE VALVE ASSEMBLY

I hereby state that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN Product Architects, Inc.

ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN 2400 Central Avenue, Suite K
Boulder, Colorado 80301

I hereby state that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR Part 121 for purposes of paying reduced fees to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby state that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
☐ the application identified above.
☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern, or organization having rights in the invention must file separate statements as to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

- Each person, concern, or organization having any rights in the invention is listed below:
☒ no such person, concern, or organization exists.
☐ each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING Robert A. Heiberger

TITLE OF PERSON IF OTHER THAN OWNER President

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SIGNATURE [Signature] DATE 1/26/99